

drained, sandy, loam soils. Within the park, *M. linearis* is colonial much like populations of *Claytonia*, ranging from a few plants to several thousands over areas of less than one square meter or up to 30 m² in size.

Since we have no information on when the species may have first arrived, it is likely that either other specimens may exist in herbaria, likewise assumed to be *Claytonia virginica*, or that it has been overlooked. From the habitat range of these collections, *M. linearis* may be expected in other locations within the Mississippi-Yazoo Delta Region along roadsides or in cemeteries, roadside parks, and even lawns. — *Richard K. Rabeler, University of Michigan Herbarium, North University Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1057, U.S.A. and Charles T. Bryson, USDA-ARS, Southern Weed Science Laboratory, Stoneville, MS 38776, U.S.A.*

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CAREX COMOSA (CYPERACEAE), NEW TO MISSISSIPPI. — *Carex comosa* Boott is a large, conspicuous sedge that inhabits low, wet, non-acid soils (Mackenzie 1935). It occurs from southeastern Canada to Minnesota, generally southward to central peninsular Florida and west to Texas, and in the west from California to Washington, eastward to Idaho (Steyermark 1968, Godfrey and Wooten 1979). It is disjunct in central Mexico (Hermann 1974). However, the nearest known record to Mississippi is from Crittenden County, Arkansas which is adjacent to and across the Mississippi River from Mississippi and Tennessee (Smith 1978). Despite searches for this species, especially by the senior author during the past decade, *C. comosa* had not been found within the boundaries of Mississippi.

While on a collecting trip, *C. comosa* was found growing at an oxbow lake in Coahoma County located in the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Region. Similar oxbow lakes are scattered throughout the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Region.

Specimens collected: MISSISSIPPI. Coahoma Co.: 5.6 mi (9 km) N on US 49 from its jct. with MS 3, E side of US 49, Home Cypress Hunting Club Lake, NE Dublin; E of US 49, Sec. 34, T26N, R3W, 15 May 1990, *Bryson 9858 & S. & G. Jones* (crb, private collection of Charles T. Bryson, DSC, GA, IBE, MICH, MMNS, NLU, SWSL, TENN, UARK, VDB, VSC, WARM); *S. & G. Jones 4719 & Bryson* (ASTC, SMU, SWT, TAES, TEX, US).

The habitat is an open oxbow lake (cypress slough) with scattered bald cypress trees (*Taxodium distichum*) growing in the lake. The area adjacent to the oxbow is cleared farmland with brownish loamy clay soil, alluvium (Qa) of the Tutwiler formation within the Delta Region (Holocene, Quaternary) (Bicker 1969). *Carex comosa* was found frequently growing on bald cypress stumps and logs in close association with *C. decomposita*, and less frequently growing along the bank's edge. Other associated taxa were *Ludwigia* sp., *Bidens* sp., and *Lemma* sp.

Due to the large population size of more than 50 clumps and the large caespitose clumps, the authors believe that *C. comosa* has been established at this location for many years and is not a recent introduction. Subsequent searches in potential habitat in Coahoma County and surrounding counties in northwestern Mississippi by the senior author during 1990 failed to locate additional populations of *C. comosa*. This record is approximately 62 miles (100 km) southeast from the nearest station in Arkansas.

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